

Appl. No. 10/785,464
Atty. Docket No. CM2601MC
Amtd. dated April 13, 2006
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable absorbent article comprising:

a liquid pervious topsheet; a liquid impervious backsheet; and an absorbent member positioned between said topsheet and said backsheet, said absorbent member having a thickness dimension, a first surface being oriented towards said topsheet and an opposed second surface being oriented towards said backsheet, said second surface being separated from said first surface by said thickness dimension, said absorbent member comprises at least one continuous and homogeneous region of a sprayed on layer of particles of chitosan material, wherein said chitosan material spans across void spaces located on or within the absorbent member and at least partially covers constituent materials of the absorbent material, wherein said particles of chitosan have a particle size distribution with a mean diameter $D(v,0.9)$ of not more than about 300 μm , wherein at least 1 gram of said chitosan material is soluble in 100 grams of water at 25°C and one atmosphere.
2. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of claim 1, wherein said region is positioned on said first and/or second surface of said absorbent member.
3. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of claim 2, wherein the surface area coverage of chitosan material within said region of particles of chitosan material on said surface of said absorbent member is at least about 75% of the total surface of said region.
4. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of claim 3, wherein the surface area coverage of chitosan material within said region of particles of chitosan material on said surface of said absorbent member is about 100% of the total surface of said region.
5. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of claim 1, wherein said article further comprises an additional absorbent member positioned between said region and said backsheet and/or said topsheet.

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6. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of claim 1, wherein said region comprises chitosan particles having a particle size distribution with a mean diameter $D(v,0.9)$ of from about 10 nm to about 300 μm .

7. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 1, wherein said chitosan material has a degree of deacetylation of more than about 70%.

8. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 1, wherein said chitosan material comprises at least one salt of chitosan, such as chitosonium pyrrolidone carboxylate and/or chitosonium lactate.

9. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 1, wherein said absorbent member comprises a structure with internal void space, preferably a dry laid hydrophilic fibrous web.

10. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of claim 1, wherein said region comprises particles of chitosan material in an amount of about 0.1 to about 200 g per square meter of said absorbent member.

11. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of claim 2, wherein at least one of said surfaces of said absorbent member is covered by at least about 40% of the total surface area of said surface with said regions comprising particles of chitosan material.

12. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of claim 11, wherein at least one of said surfaces of said absorbent member is covered by about 100% of the total surface area of said surface with said regions comprising particles of chitosan material.

13-31. (Canceled)